

# ARIISW kara

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Asian Research Institute for International Social Work (ARIISW),  
Shukutoku University

## Academic exchange and future development in Mongolia: Open Mind Mongolia 2023

From 27-30 September 2023, a five-member Shukutoku University delegation travelled to Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia, based on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the School of Arts and Sciences, the National University of Mongolia (NUM) and ARIISW. Having received an invitation from the NUM delegation (Head: Dr Tamir Chultemsuren) which visited to Shukutoku University in June 2023, the Shukutoku delegation participated in the international conference Open Mind Mongolia that was successfully held on the 28th of September.



Courtesy Visit to the NUM's President Prof B. Dendev



Keynote by Prof N. Totsuka

Prof Noriko Totsuka, Director of ARIISW and the delegation's head, gave a keynote speech, entitled 'What Eastern-rooted practical philosophy says to Western-rooted social work'. In response, the participants expressed their interest in the speech.

NUM and ARIISW also held a joint session, entitled 'Policy and practice in disability and development towards inclusive social change:

Implications for social work' (Chair: Dr Higashida, Head researcher), with five speakers: Mr Ch. Undrakhbayar from Universal Progress (NGO); Ms Boloroo from the Division for Development of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Labour and Social Security; Dr H. Chiba from the international cooperation side (JICA/DPUB2 and Koei



The Joint Session

Research & Consulting Inc.); Prof O. Dugarsuren from NUM; and Ms M. Ikehata from Shukutoku University. In addition, Prof J. Gohori and a graduate student Ms S. Nishino gave oral presentations at the conference.



Meeting on Buddhist Social Work Studies

Other events included a courtesy visit to NUM's President Prof B. Dendev and a meeting between NUM and the Shukutoku's delegation for strengthening future relations, including the possibility of student and graduate student exchange. In addition, a meeting on Buddhist social work research (led by Programme Researcher Dr J. Gohori) and an exchange of views on international social work education and research were also held.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to NUM's colleagues for their warm welcome and hospitality, which enabled the entire delegation to have a fulfilling travel and academic exchange. ARIISW sincerely hopes that the cooperation will lead to the next step forward.

### **The Signing Ceremony for the renewal of the MOU with the Mongolian National University of Education**

A renewal signing ceremony for the MOU between the School of Educational Studies, the Mongolian National University of Education and ARIISW was successfully held on 29 September 2023. In order to further develop cooperation between the two signature parties, we had constructive discussions on various possibilities for future collaboration, including that on Buddhist social work and international social work.



◆News from the ARIISW can be found on the following website.  
<https://www.shukutoku.ac.jp/en/about/facilities/asiancenter.html>